

AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH REPORT - 2005

CHAPTER 3.1.1.

INFECTION WITH *BONAMIA OSTREAE*

Article 3.1.1.1.

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, infection with *Bonamia ostreae* means infection only with *Bonamia ostreae*.

Methods for surveillance, diagnosis and confirmatory identification are provided in the *Aquatic Manual*.

Article 3.1.1.2.

Susceptible species

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, known *susceptible species* for infection with *Bonamia ostreae* are: European flat oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), Australian mud oyster (*O. angasi*), Argentinean flat oyster (*O. puelchana*), Chilean flat oyster (*O. chilensis*), Asiatic oyster (*O. denselammellosa*) and Suminoe oyster (*Crassostrea ariakensis*).

To date all species of the genus *Ostrea* (except *O. conchaphila*) exposed to *Bonamia ostreae* have been susceptible to *infection*. Therefore all species of this genus should be regarded as potentially susceptible.

Suspect cases, as defined in the *Aquatic Manual*, of infection with *Bonamia ostreae* in species other than those listed in this Article should be referred immediately to the appropriate OIE Reference Laboratory, whether or not clinical signs are associated with the findings.

Article 3.1.1.3.

Commodities

1. When authorising import or transit of the following *commodities*, *Competent Authorities* should not require any *Bonamia ostreae* related conditions, regardless of the *Bonamia ostreae* status of the *exporting country, zone or compartment*:
 - a) From the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2. for any purpose:
 - i) Commercially-sterile canned or other heat treated products;
 - ii) *Gametes*, *eggs* and *larvae*;
 - b) The following products destined for human consumption from the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2. which have been prepared in such a way as to minimise the risk for alternative uses (a Member Country may wish to consider the need to introduce internal measures to prevent the commodity being used for any purpose other than for human consumption):
 - i) Chemically preserved products (e.g. smoked, salted, pickled, marinated, etc ...);
 - ii) Non commercially sterile heat treated products (e.g. ready prepared meals);
 - iii) Off the shell (chilled or frozen) packaged for direct retail trade;

- iv) Half-shell (chilled);
 - c) For *Crassostrea gigas*, *C. virginica*, *Ruditapes decussatus*, *R. philippinarum*, *Mytilus galloprovincialis* and *M. edulis* all products.
2. When authorising import or transit of the *commodities* of a species listed in Article 3.1.1.2., other than *commodities* listed in point 1 of Article 3.1.1.3., *Competent Authorities* should require the conditions prescribed in Articles 3.1.1.7. to 3.1.1.11. of this Chapter, relevant to the *Bonamia ostreae* status of the *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment*.
 3. When considering the import or transit of any other commodity from bivalve species not listed in Article 3.1.1.2. (especially *Ostrea* spp.) from an *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free of *Bonamia ostreae*, *Competent Authorities* of the *importing country* should conduct an analysis of the risk of introduction, establishment and spread of *Bonamia ostreae*, and the potential consequences, associated with importation of the *commodity*, prior to a decision. The outcome of this assessment should be made available to the *exporting country*.

Article 3.1.1.4.

***Bonamia ostreae* free country**

A country may declare itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* if it meets the conditions in points 1), 2), 3) or 4) below.

If a country shares a *zone* or *compartment* with one or more other countries, it can only declare itself a *Bonamia ostreae* free country if all the areas covered by the shared water are declared *Bonamia ostreae* free zones (see Article 3.1.1.5.).

1. A country where no species of the genus *Ostrea* is present may declare itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the country for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. A country where the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter 3.1.1. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the country for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Bonamia ostreae* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. A country where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* when:
 - a) *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously for at least the past 2 years; and
 - b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Bonamia ostreae*.

OR

4. A country that had declared itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* but in which the disease is detected may not declare itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* again until the following conditions have been met:
 - a) on detection of the disease, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and
 - b) infected populations have been safely destroyed or removed from the *infected zone* by means that minimise the risk of further spread of the disease, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
 - c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Bonamia ostreae*.

In the meantime, other areas of the remaining *territory* may be declared one or more free zones, provided that they meet the conditions in point 3) of Article 3.1.1.5.

Article 3.1.1.5.

***Bonamia ostreae* free zone or free compartment**

A *zone* or *compartment* free from *Bonamia ostreae* may be established within the *territory* of one or more countries of infected or unknown status for infection with *Bonamia ostreae* and declared free by the *Competent Authority(ies)* of the country(ies) concerned, if the *zone* or *compartment* meets the conditions referred to in points 1), 2), 3) or 4) below.

If a *zone* or *compartment* extends over more than one country, it can only be declared a *Bonamia ostreae* free *zone* or *compartment* if the conditions outlined below apply to all areas of the *zone* or *compartment*.

1. In a country of unknown status for *Bonamia ostreae*, a *zone* or *compartment* where no species of the genus *Ostrea* is present may declare itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. In a country of unknown status for *Bonamia ostreae*, a *zone* or *compartment* where the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Bonamia ostreae* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. A *zone* or *compartment* where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Bonamia ostreae* when:

- a) *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously for at least the past 2 years; and
- b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Bonamia ostreae*.

OR

4. A *zone* previously declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* but in which the disease is detected may not be declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* again until the following conditions have been met:
 - a) on detection of the disease, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and
 - b) infected populations have been safely destroyed or removed from the *infected zone* by means that minimise the risk of further spread of the disease, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
 - c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Bonamia ostreae*.

Article 3.1.1.6.

Maintenance of free status

A country or *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* following the provisions of points 1) or 2) of Articles 3.1.1.4. or 3.1.1.5., respectively, may maintain its status as *Bonamia ostreae* free provided that *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

A country or *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Bonamia ostreae* following the provisions of point 3) of Articles 3.1.1.4. or 3.1.1.5., respectively, may discontinue *targeted surveillance* and maintain its status as *Bonamia ostreae* free provided that conditions that are conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Bonamia ostreae*, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, exist and *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

However, for declared free *zones* or *compartments* in infected countries and in all cases where conditions are not conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Bonamia ostreae*, *targeted surveillance* needs to be continued at a level determined by the *Competent Authority* on the basis of the likelihood of reinfection.

Article 3.1.1.7.

Importation of live animals from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing live *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2., other than *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This certificate must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 3.1.1.4. or 3.1.1.5.

(as applicable), whether the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*.

The certificate shall be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 6.3.1..

Article 3.1.1.8.

Importation of live animals for aquaculture from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing, for *aquaculture*, *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the risk and apply risk mitigation measures such as:

1. the consignment is delivered directly into and held in *quarantine* facilities; and
2. the imported *aquatic animals* are continuously isolated from the local environment; and
3. all effluent and waste material are treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Bonamia ostreae*.

Article 3.1.1.9.

Importation of live animals for processing and/or human consumption from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing, for processing and/or human consumption, *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2., other than any live *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require:

1. the consignment is delivered directly to and held in *quarantine* facilities until processing and/or consumption; and
2. all effluent and waste material are treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Bonamia ostreae*.

Article 3.1.1.10.

Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2., other than *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that the consignment be accompanied by an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This certificate must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 3.1.1.4. or 3.1.1.5. (as applicable), whether or not the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*.

The certificate shall be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 6.3.2..

Article 3.1.1.11.

Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species listed in Article 3.1.1.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Bonamia ostreae*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the risk and apply appropriate risk mitigation measures.